



Volume 1, Issue 1

September-October 2009

# The Emerald News

Greetings from Councilmember Marti Emerald

MARTI'S VISION

My vision is a council district and city with a vibrant local economy where citizens are heard, energized, and engaged in preserving and improving their lives and neighborhoods through a trusted partnership with a responsive and transparent city government.

We're fresh off the City Council's August recess and have hit the ground running. The Council just approved a Pedicab ordinance I proposed and we're advancing Fire Safety and Water Conservation efforts. We're also hashing out the pros and cons of investing in new public works projects, including a proposed new Civic Center, Downtown Library, and expanded Convention Center. We invite and encourage you to be front and center in these important discussions.

Team 7 (Marti's dedicated staff of troubleshooters) is also working with families and community leaders in our District 7 neighborhoods to fix problems and create exciting new initiatives. Thanks to friendly nudging from Team 7, tons of construction debris on the Centre Pointe property in Rolando are now gone, recycled into local freeway projects. What looked like a war zone is now swept clean.

Neighborhood streets from City Heights to San Carlos and Tierrasanta are now being repaired and brush clearing is underway to protect our canyon-rich communities from wildfires.

Your Team 7 is working hard for you every day. It is our mission as dedicated public servants to enable and empower you, our constituents, to improve your quality of life, economy, and neighborhoods through the effective use of responsive, *transparent*, and trustworthy City government.

Each month in the pages of The Emerald News we will show you how Team 7 is working with you and your neighbors to improve your quality of life and restore integrity to government. We hope you will also visit our Web site: www.sandiego.gov/city council/cd7 to see Team 7 at work each day, making local government as great as San Diego.

A trusted advocate and troubleshooter dedicated to improving the quality of life in District 7



Neighborhood Representative Chris Pearson

Working with the community, Marti and her team of dedicated troubleshooters are committed to improving the local economy by creating jobs and helping residents and businesses achieve their goals.

THE EMERALD NEWS

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This month, District 7 Neighborhood Representative Chris Pearson is in the spotlight. Chris serves as the troubleshooter for the communities of Allied Gardens, Del Cerro, Grantville, Lake Murray, Navajo, and San Carlos, attending all meetings of all the community councils in this sprawling area of District 7. Chris also advises Marti on Grantville Redevelopment and is working hard to balance the needs and visions of the many stakeholders in the Grantville area.

Chris has been busy this summer assisting Marti with several projects including the repaving of Wandermere Drive, curb-cuts at Park Ridge & Laurel Ridge, and a huge clean-up project in San Carlos.

If you see Chris in your neighborhood, please say "hi."

# THE GREENING of GREENBRIER

If you live along Greenbrier, between Waring and Mission Gorge Roads in Allied Gardens, the City would like to give you up to 5 trees—at no charge—to plant along the strip of land between the street and the sidewalk, also known as the parkway.

While a few homes have a Greenbrier address, most of the eligible homes aren't really *on* Greenbrier but one side of your property butts up against Greenbrier.

If you're willing to dig the holes and agree to water the drought-tolerant trees for two years, the Urban Corps will provide up to five trees per property and the City will waive permit requirements.

To reserve your tree(s) call the Urban Corps @ 619-235-6884 x3312 and for the permit contact Urban Forester Drew Potockii @ 619-527-5486.

# STAGE 2 DROUGHT ALERT

It's hard to believe that summer is drawing to a close. But we all know summer in San Diego doesn't end with Labor Day weekend or youngsters returning to school. Sometimes it's hard to tell just when summer ends and autumn begins. Mid-August through late October are the warmest, driest months of the year and mark the most dangerous months of the fire season.

It doesn't help that we just wrapped up another year with below-average rainfall. So on June 1, 2009, the San Diego City Council passed an Ordinance declaring a Stage 2 Drought Alert. This means we have limited reserves of water and we must use it wisely. Click here to learn more:

http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/survey.shtml

#### MARTI'S MISSION STATEMENT

To enable and empower constituents to improve their quality of life, economy, and neighborhoods through the effective use of responsive, transparent and trustworthy city government.

#### THURSDAYS WITH MARTI

Often, the best way to get to know the people in the community and what really concerns them is to get out into the neighborhoods. So every Thursday, Councilmember Marti Emerald will be in a different community from 9:30 am - 2:30 pm.

Marti's Thursday schedule:

1st Thursday: College - Rolando Library 2nd Thursday: San Carlos Recreation Center

**3rd Thursday: Tierrasanta Library** 

4th Thursday: AM: Allied Gardens Library

PM: Allied Gardens Recreation Center

Please contact your Neighborhood Representative to schedule a meeting with Marti.

## YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

Tierrasanta, Mission Trails Park, Stonebridge, and Marine Corps Air Station. (619) 236-6677

Marisa Berumen—Alvarado Estates and Fox Canyon Neighborhood. (619) 236-6435 and mberumen@sandiego.gov

Cynthia R. Harris—College Area and El Cerrito. (619) 533-5897 and crharris@sandiego.gov

Kim Nguyen—City Heights, Rolando Park, Rolando Village, Redwood Village, and Oak Park. (619) 236-7042 and klnguyen@sandiego.gov

Chris Pearson—Allied Gardens, Del Cerro, Grantville, Lake Murray, Navajo and San Carlos. (619) 236-6677, (619) 846-1095 and cpearson@sandiego.gov

## SEPTEMBER: DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Marti is focused on maintaining and enhancing the District's communities by preserving important neighborhood public services such as libraries, parks, police, fire and public safety September is a great month to take stock in our level of disaster preparedness. Earthquakes, wildfires, the possibility of El Nino rain this winter, and the H1N1 Swine Flu... there's plenty to be ready for. San Diego County has a great website (find the link at the bottom of this story) with lots of useful information so you and your family will be prepared.

The San Diego County Fire Chief's Association assembled a packet of information and tips called *Before the Threat; Are You Prepared?* Marti knows this is important information for every household in District 7 so she and her staff of troubleshooters have been helping San Diego Fire and Rescue distribute these free information packets. If you'd like one, contact your Council Representative and ask. If you're not sure who your Representative is, look on page 3.

Here's a link to the County Office of Emergency Services: www.http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/oes/ready/

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### IN SEPTEMBER:

9/19 California Coastal Clean-up Day 25th Anniversary. Join thousands of San Diegans of all ages in cleaning up our neighborhoods. With 80 designated cleanup sites, there is one near you. Make it a family day. www.cleanupday.org.

9/25 Spirit of the Barrio Join Marti at the Special Spirit of the Barrio Event with the Grand Opening of the newly expanded Logan Heights Family Health Center, 1809 National Ave., San Diego, Ca 92113 from 11:30 am-1:30 pm.

#### **COMING IN OCTOBER:**

 $10/10\quad 20 th\ Annual\ Oktober fest — {\it Tierras} anta\ style.\ Bratwurst,\ a\ Beer\ Garden,\ fireworks\ and\ fun\ for\ the\ whole\ family\ at\ the\ Tierras} anta\ Community\ Park,\ 11220\ Clairemont\ Mesa\ Blvd.\ from\ 3\ to\ 9\ pm.$ 

10/18 Fall Fiesta at Mission Trails Regional Park Fundraiser in the Visitors Center, benefiting the Alpha Project. 5:30-8 pm. (619)239-1721.

10/24 BOO! PARADE Councilmember Marti Emerald is the Grand Marshal for the Boo! Parade and Carnival in the College Area hosted by the College Business District. The parade kicks off at 11 am and creepily-crawls down El Cajon Boulevard starting at 59th. Ghosts and goblins then move to the Carnival in Clay Park on Seminole Drive. From Noon-6 pm, this community event will have rides, costume contests and lots of fun for all! www.booparade.com.

**HopeLine 2009** We need your old cell phones to help families in crisis. The City is teaming up with Verizon Wireless for a month-long collection event. It doesn't matter which phone service provider you have, the old phones will be refurbished and donated with pre-approved minutes and distributed through the Family Justice Center in San Diego. There are drop-off points police stations and public libraries all over the city. (619)533-3592

# **WANDERMERE RE-PAVED!**

"You definitely know the right buttons to push. All I can say (and it seems inadequate) is Thank You, Thank You, Thank you, Thank you!" Mary Majors, San Carlos resident.

"I am surprised, very pleased and impressed that your efforts got something done. You have my thanks and my respect for all your efforts in connection with this issue." Don Stevenson, D-7 resident.

That issue is Wandermere Drive, a busy stretch of road which passes Patrick Henry High School. It was bumpy, had potholes, and was becoming dangerous.

After being contacted by people who live in this San Carlos/Del Cerro neighborhood, District 7 Neighborhood Representative Chris Pearson took the issue about this deteriorating road to Councilmember Emerald. Marti came out, took a look, and agreed; Wandermere Drive couldn't wait for the utility undergrounding project scheduled for sometime in 2011. It needed work – ASAP! Although some patching of the road was done earlier this summer, that wasn't enough. On Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, this asphalt "topping" project began.

Marti has a team of hard-working, results-driven field reps, like Chris Pearson, in District 7 and is proud to have what she calls "the best team in the City of San Diego." And it is a team. Marti and Representative Pearson tackled this project with area residents - as a team - and now, people who drive along this stretch of road will have fewer rattles -- in their cars and their nerves.









# CENTREPOINTE CLEANED UP!

It was originally planned to be a mixed-use residential and commercial center, but when the economy took a downturn, everything came to a screeching halt.

For this north Rolando Village neighborhood, the nearly 9-acre site has been a point of aggravation for people who live and work in the area. It wasn't only the piles of cement block and steel rebar which created this eyesore; Graffiti vandals hit on a regular basis and the cement islands with trees and bougainvillea were havens for trespassers.

At the urging of Councilmember Marti Emerald, demolition crews showed up in mid-August, and quickly cleared the Centre Pointe site at 63<sup>rd</sup> and El Cajon Boulevard. The developer, Douglas Wilson Companies, paid for the clean-up.

Also at Marti's request, most of the debris is being recycled! The concrete block and rebar are targeted for an Interstate-905 project and EDCO is taking the bougainvillea and other greenery for mulch. The trees will remain and improved fencing should help keep people off the property, which will remain vacant for the time being.









#### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS **DISTRICT-7 LIBRARIES Abandoned Vehicles** 858-495-7856 **Allied Gardens Animal Regulation** 619-236-4250 5188 Zion Ave San Diego, CA 92120-2792 Beach & Bay Advisory 619-338-2073 (619) 533-3970 **Birth & Death Records** 619-237-0502 San Carlos **Brush/Weed Abatement** 619-533-4444 7265 Jackson Dr **Building Permits** 619-446-5000 San Diego, CA 92119-2314 **Buses/MTS Access** 619-233-3004 (619) 527-3430 **Canyon Watchers Program** 858-292-6484 **Tierrasanta Library City Council Docket Info** 619-533-4000 619-236-5555 **City Directory Code Violations** 619-236-5500 **Curb Violations** 619-527-7500 **College Rolando Dead Animal Removal** 858-694-7000 6600 Montezuma Rd **Dog Licenses** 619-767-2675 San Diego, CA 92115-2828 **Fire Stations** 619-533-4300 (619) 533-3902 Graffiti 619-525-8522 **Hazardous Materials Hotline** 858-694-7000 City Heights/Weingart Branch **Housing Commission** 619-231-9400 **Library & Performance Annex** 3795 Fairmount Ave. **Humane Society** 619-299-7012 San Diego, CA 92105-2605 **Noise Regulation** 619-236-5500 (619) 641-6100 Office of Small Business 619-685-1390 Park & Recreation 619-525-8219 Oak Park Branch Library 2802 54th St. **Parking Citations** 619-236-7145 San Diego, CA 92105-4941 **Police: Non Emergency** 619-531-2000 (619) 527-3406 **Pot Hole Hotline** 619-527-7500 **Recycling Hotline** 858-694-7000 **Senior Citizens Services** 619-236-6905 DISTRICT-7 Sewer Repair/Spills 619-515-3525 RECREATION CENTERS Sidewalk Maintenance 619-527-7500 **Allied Gardens Recreation Center Social Services Information** 211 5155 Greenbrier Ave., 92120 **Storm water Pollution Hotline** 619-235-1000 (619) 235-1129 **Street Lights** 619-527-7500 Colina Del Sol Recreation Center **Street Sweeping** 619-527-7500 5319 Orange Ave., 92115 (619) 235-1144 **Traffic Control** 619-533-3126 **Tree Maintenance** 619-527-7500 **San Carlos Recreation Center** 6445 Lake Badin Ave., 92119 **Vector Control** 858-694-2888 (619) 527-3443 Waste Reduction & Disposal 858-492-5010 **Tierrasanta Recreation Center** 619-515-3525 Water Emergency 11220 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., 92124 **Water Utilities** 619-515-3500 (858) 573-1393

619-236-5555

**Zoning Regulation Info**